



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

29 SEPTEMBER 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Hawthorne – Police Seize 26 Weapons in Gang Raids

(U) Police seized 26 guns, many of them banned assault weapons, during early morning gang raids yesterday in response to a series of shootings over the past year in Hawthorne, Gardena, and Los Angeles. Two men, including one suspected gang member, were arrested during the predawn raids at seven addresses in Gardena and Los Angeles, Hawthorne Police Sgt. Larry Grajeda said. The police operation involved more than 100 officers, including special weapons teams from Hawthorne, El Segundo, Torrance, and Azusa, along with police officers from Hermosa Beach and Palos Verdes Estates, and federal agents from DEA and ATF.

SOURCE: 28 September 2017, [Daily Breeze](#)

(U) Sacramento – California, Wisconsin Receive Clarification from DHS on Election Hacking Attempts

(U) The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has notified two states that Russian hackers attempted to scan networks other than their election systems in the run-up to the 2016 presidential election, contrary to details provided last week. On 27 September, California became the second state—after Wisconsin—to receive the clarification. California Secretary of State Alex Padilla said in a statement that DHS officials told him the scanning activity took place on the state technology department's network and not on the Secretary of State website, as the state was told last week. Last week, DHS notified election officials in 21 states that their systems were targeted last year "by Russian government cyber actors seeking vulnerabilities and access to US election infrastructure."

SOURCE: 27 September 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – ICE Arrests over 450 on Federal Immigration Charges

(U) Washington – US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations Fugitive Operations (ERO) teams arrested 498 individuals from 42 countries for federal immigration violations in multiple cities across the US during a four-day operation that ended on 27 September. Operation 'Safe City' focused on cities and regions where ICE deportation officers are denied access to jails and prisons to interview suspected immigration violators or jurisdictions where ICE detainees are not honored. The operation targeted individuals who have violated US immigration laws, prioritizing aliens with criminal convictions, pending criminal charges, known gang members and affiliates, immigration fugitives and those who re-entered the US after deportation. Individuals with active DACA were not targeted for arrest.

SOURCE: 28 September 2017, [ICE Press Release](#)

(U) New York – Bin Laden Son-in-Law's Conviction Upheld

(U) Manhattan – A US appeals court yesterday upheld the conviction on terrorism charges of Suleiman Abu Ghaith, a Kuwaiti-born cleric who was a son-in-law of Osama bin Laden and spokesman for the al-Qa'ida leader. Abu Ghaith, who is serving a life sentence, had claimed that the evidence did not support his conviction for conspiring to murder Americans, and that the indictment failed to detail how he had

provided material support of terrorism. The 2nd US Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan found "overwhelming" proof that Abu Ghaith knew of al-Qa'ida's goal of killing Americans and intended to participate, even if he did not know details of any specific planned act of terror.

SOURCE: 28 September 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Libya – Libya Arrests ISIS Militant Involved in 2015 Beheadings

(U) Tripoli – Libyan authorities have arrested a man suspected of taking part in the ISIS beheading of 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians in Libya in 2015, an official said yesterday. Chief Prosecutor Al-Sadiq al-Sour told reporters the beheadings took place behind a seaside hotel in the coastal city of Sirte. "The individuals involved in the beheading are known to us by name," he said, adding that search operations are underway. Hundreds of ISIS militants are believed to have fled Sirte into the Libyan interior after their defeat last year by militias loyal to an UN-backed government in Tripoli, the capital.

SOURCE: 28 September 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Syria – ISIS Leader Al-Baghdadi Purportedly Heard in Recording

(U) Raqqa – ISIS has released what it says is a new audio recording of its top leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, indicating he may still be alive. The recording was released by the ISIS-run al-Furqan outlet yesterday, and the voice sounded like previous recordings of the reclusive leader, who has only appeared in public once. The last purported audio message from al-Baghdadi was released in November 2016. Russian officials said in June there was a "high probability" that al-Baghdadi died in a Russian airstrike on the outskirts of the Syrian city of Raqqa, the de facto capital of the extremist group, but US officials later said they believed he was still alive.

SOURCE: 28 September 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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